



# Identity Theft Victim Complaint Data

*Figures and Trends  
In California*

*January 1- December 31, 2004*



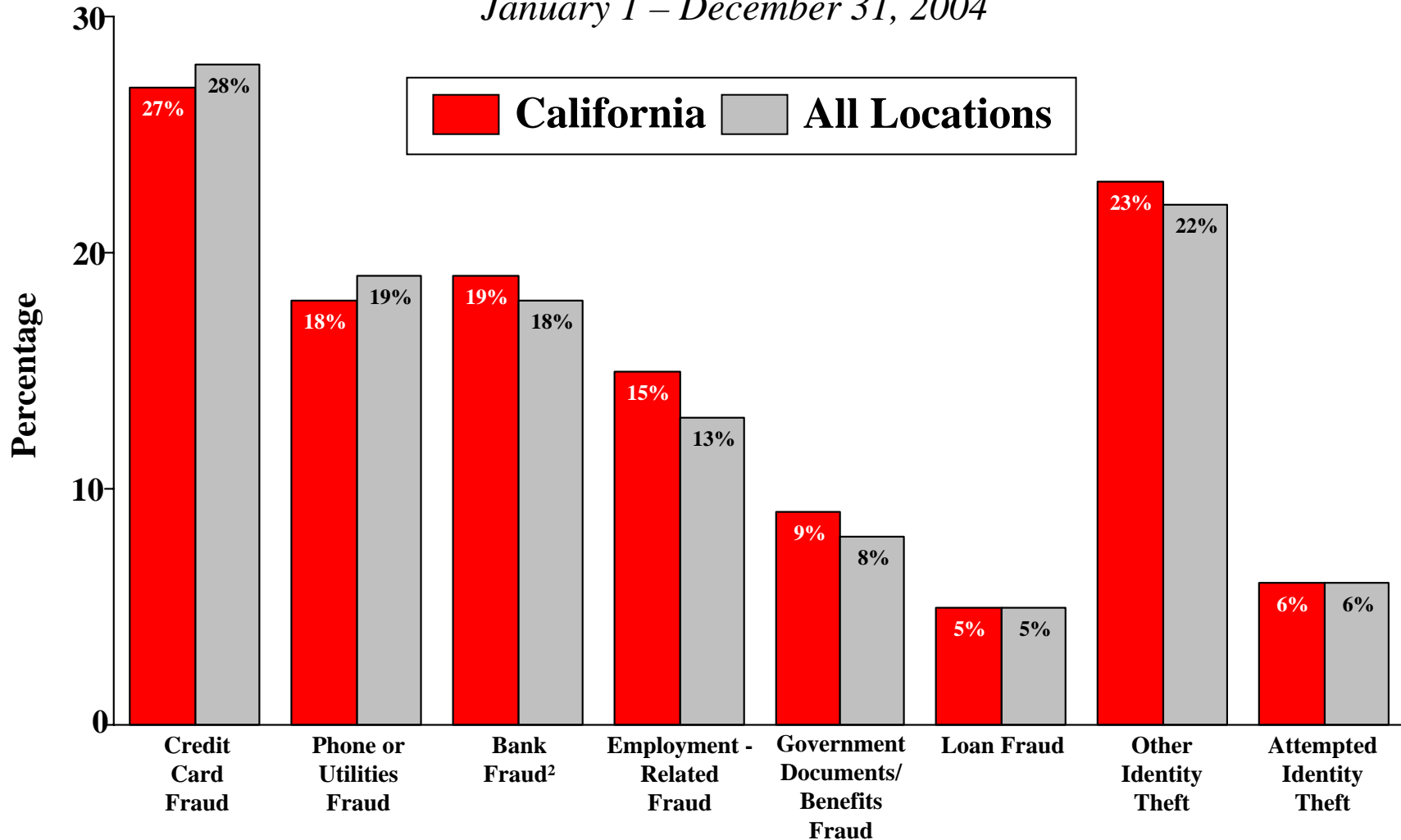
*Federal Trade Commission  
Washington, DC*



# Figure 1

## How Victims' Information Is Misused<sup>1</sup>

January 1 – December 31, 2004



<sup>1</sup>Percentages are based on the total number of victims reporting: 43,839 from California and 246,570 from all locations. Percentages add to more than 100 because approximately 20% of victims from California and 19% of victims from all locations reported experiencing more than one type of identity theft. All victims reported experiencing at least one type of identity theft.

<sup>2</sup>Includes fraud involving checking and saving accounts and electronic fund transfers.

# Figure 2

## How Victims' Information Is Misused<sup>1</sup>

January 1 – December 31, 2004

### Total Number of Identity Theft Victims:

California = **43,839**

All Locations = **246,570**

#### Credit Card Fraud

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
New Accounts	16.6%	16.5%
Existing Accounts	11.6	11.9
Unspecified	0.1	0.1
Total	<b>27%</b>	<b>28%</b>

#### Phone or Utilities Fraud

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Wireless - New	9.8%	10.0%
Telephone - New	6.3	5.9
Utilities - New	2.8	4.2
Unauthorized Charges to Existing Accounts	0.7	0.7
Unspecified	0.3	0.3
Total	<b>18%</b>	<b>19%</b>

#### Bank Fraud<sup>2</sup>

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Existing Accounts	9.1%	8.5%
Electronic Fund Transfer	6.4	6.6
New Accounts	4.1	3.6
Unspecified	0.1	0.1
Total	<b>19%</b>	<b>18%</b>

#### Employment-Related Fraud

<i>Theft Subtype</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Employment-Related Fraud	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>

#### Government Documents or Benefits Fraud

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Fraudulent Tax Return	3.1%	3.8%
Driver's License Issued / Forged	2.4	2.2
Gov't Benefits Applied For / Received	2.4	1.4
Other Gov't Documents Issued / Forged	0.8	0.7
Social Security Card Issued / Forged	0.4	0.5
Unspecified	<0.1	<0.1
Total	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>

#### Loan Fraud

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Business / Personal / Student Loan	2.4%	2.6%
Auto Loan / Lease	1.8	1.9
Real Estate Loan	1.3	1.2
Unspecified	0.2	0.2
Total	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>

#### Other Identity Theft

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Other	15.8%	14.3%
Illegal / Criminal	1.5	2.4
Internet / E-Mail	1.5	1.8
Medical	1.8	1.8
Apartment / House Rented	1.0	0.9
Insurance	0.4	0.4
Property Rental Fraud	0.3	0.3
Bankruptcy	0.3	0.3
Child Support	0.4	0.3
Magazines	0.2	0.2
Securities / Other Investments	0.1	0.1
Total	<b>23%</b>	<b>22%</b>

#### Attempted Identity Theft

<i>Theft Subtype</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>All Locations</i>
Attempted Identity Theft	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>

<sup>1</sup>Percentages are based on the total number of victims reporting: 43,839 from California and 246,570 from all locations. Percentages add to more than 100 because approximately 20% of victims from California and 19% of victims from all locations reported experiencing more than one type of identity theft. All victims reported experiencing at least one type of identity theft.

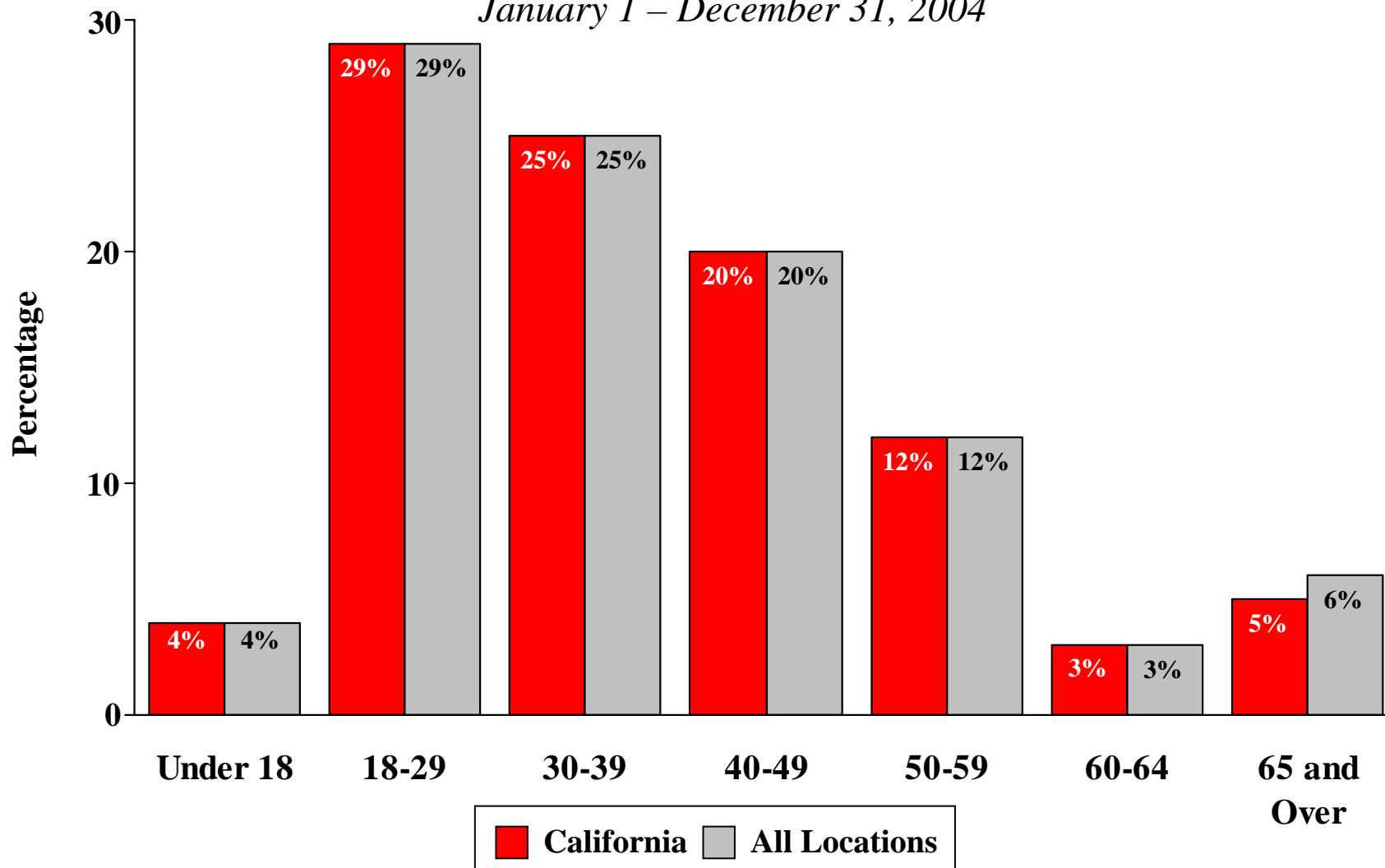
<sup>2</sup>Includes fraud involving checking and saving accounts and electronic fund transfers.



## Figure 3

### Complaints by Victim Age<sup>1</sup>

*January 1 – December 31, 2004*



<sup>1</sup>Percentages are based on the number of victims who provided their age: 41,977 from California and 234,263 from all locations. This chart represents 96% of victims reporting from California and 95% of victims reporting from all locations who contacted the Federal Trade Commission directly.

# Figure 4a



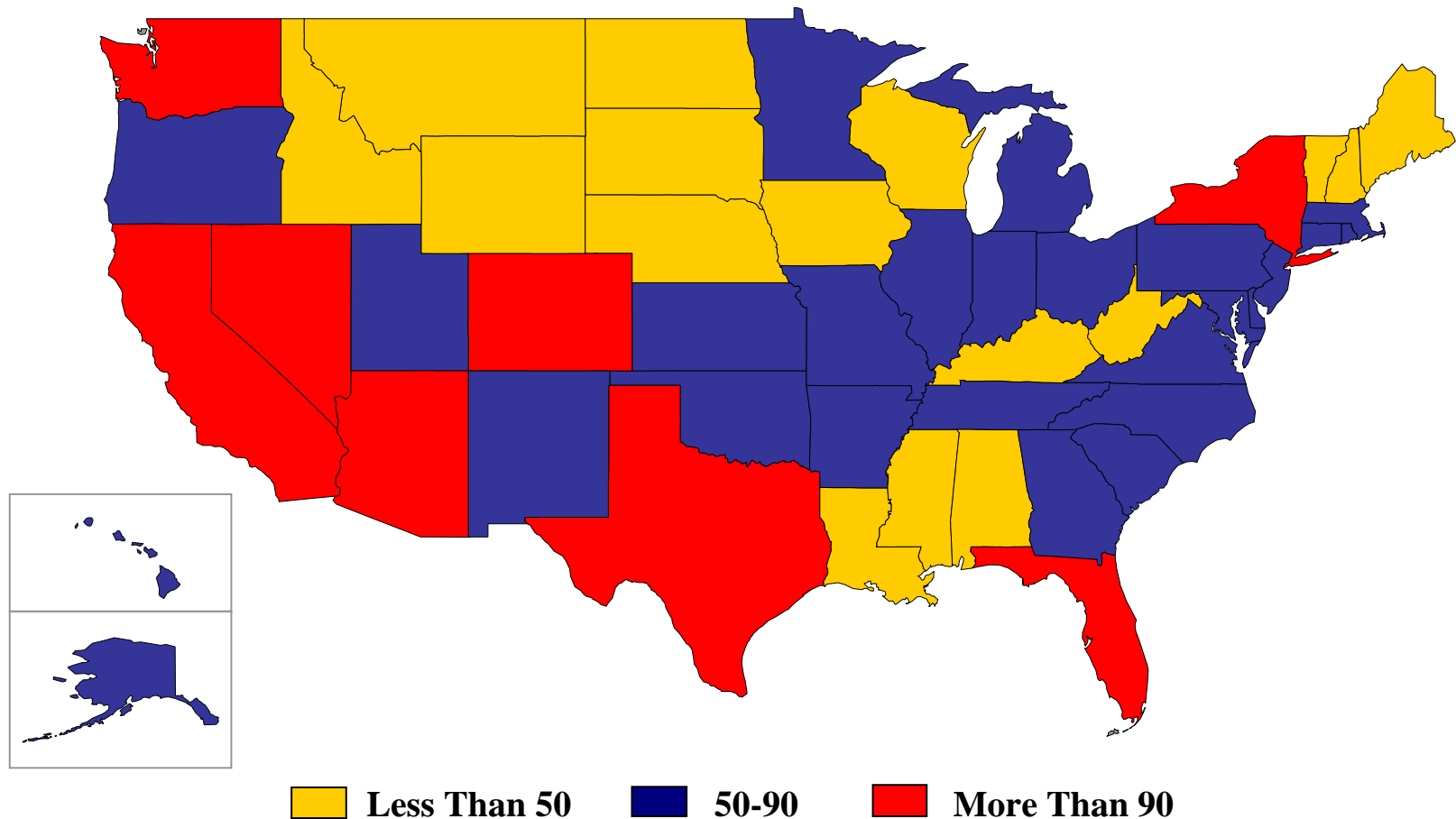
## Identity Theft Victims by State (Per 100,000 Population)<sup>1</sup>

*January 1 – December 31, 2004*

Rank	Victim State	Victims Per 100,000 Population	Number of Victims	Rank	Victim State	Victims Per 100,000 Population	Number of Victims
1	Arizona	142.5	8,186	26	Ohio	60.7	6,956
2	Nevada	125.7	2,935	27	Connecticut	57.1	2,000
3	California	122.1	43,839	28	Minnesota	57.0	2,905
4	Texas	117.6	26,454	29	Oklahoma	56.0	1,973
5	Colorado	95.8	4,409	30	Tennessee	55.0	3,246
6	Florida	92.3	16,062	31	South Carolina	51.2	2,148
7	New York	92.0	17,680	32	Arkansas	50.8	1,397
8	Washington	91.1	5,654	33	Hawaii	50.7	640
9	Oregon	87.8	3,156	34	Rhode Island	50.6	547
10	Illinois	87.6	11,138	35	Louisiana	49.9	2,254
11	Georgia	84.3	7,440	36	Alabama	48.9	2,216
12	New Mexico	83.4	1,588	37	Wisconsin	48.0	2,646
13	Maryland	83.0	4,612	38	Mississippi	46.5	1,350
14	Utah	76.6	1,831	39	Nebraska	45.1	788
15	New Jersey	75.1	6,530	40	Idaho	43.1	600
16	Michigan	72.3	7,307	41	Wyoming	42.2	214
17	Indiana	68.5	4,274	42	New Hampshire	41.8	543
18	Missouri	67.9	3,905	43	Kentucky	40.1	1,662
19	Delaware	66.6	553	44	Montana	39.3	364
20	Alaska	66.1	433	45	Iowa	34.8	1,028
21	North Carolina	65.8	5,623	46	West Virginia	34.2	621
22	Virginia	63.6	4,742	47	Vermont	33.5	208
23	Kansas	61.3	1,677	48	Maine	32.2	424
24	Massachusetts	61.1	3,921	49	North Dakota	29.6	188
25	Pennsylvania	61.0	7,563	50	South Dakota	23.2	179

<sup>1</sup>Per 100,000 unit of population estimates are based on the 2004 U.S. Census population estimates (Table NST-EST2004-01 - Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States and States, and for Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004). Numbers for the District of Columbia are 922 victims and 166.6 victims per 100,000 population.

**Figure 4b**  
**Identity Theft Victims by State (Per 100,000 Population)<sup>1</sup>**  
*January 1 – December 31, 2004*



<sup>1</sup>Per 100,000 unit of population estimates are based on the 2004 U.S. Census population estimates (Table NST-EST2004-01 - Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States and States, and for Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004). Numbers for the District of Columbia are 922 victims and 166.6 victims per 100,000 population.



# Figure 5

## Top Cities in California<sup>1</sup>

*January 1 – December 31, 2004*



<sup>1</sup>99.7% of the 43,839 victims reporting from California indicated their city of residence.